

North East Linguistics Society

Volume 30 *Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society 30 -- Volume One*

Article 1

2000

Front Matter

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Hirotani, Masako; Coetzee, Andries; Hall, Nancy; and Kim, Ji-yung (2000) "Front Matter," *North East Linguistics Society*. Vol. 30 , Article 1.

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Proceedings of the North East Linguistic Society 30

Rutgers University

Volume One:

Edited by

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PREFACE

The Linguistics Graduate Student Association at Rutgers was happy to host NELS 30, the thirtieth meeting of the North East Linguistic Society. We extend our thanks to the Faculty of the Arts and Sciences (FAS) and Dean Richard Foley for financial support; the Department of Linguistics and the chair of the department, Akin Akinlabi, for moral support and for approaching FAS on our behalf; the Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science (RuCCS), its director Ernie Lepore and assistant directors Trish Anderson and Sue Cosentino, for financial support and for hosting the first day; the Fiber Optic Materials Research Program for the use of their auditorium on the first day of the conference; the Graduate Student Association of Rutgers University for financial support; the entire Linguistics faculty, and especially Mark Baker for his role in supervising our efforts; and Joanna Stoehr, administrative assistant of the Linguistics Department, for following the project from the very beginning and providing invaluable help with all the administrative and technical details.

We thank the following linguists who reviewed abstracts for us. Their role in making NELS 30 successful cannot be overstated.

Dorit Abusch	Helen Goodluck	Diane Massam
David Adger	Mark Hale	Robert May
John Alderete	Mike Hammond	Jim McCloskey
Joseph Aoun	Heidi Harley	Gary Milsark
Emmon Bach	Randall Hendrick	Rolf Noyer
Mark Baker	Norbert Hornstein	David Odden
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Karen Zagona
Maria Luisa Zubizarreta

Ron Artstein, Michal Barak, Madeline Holler,
Zsuzsa Nagy, & Heather Robinson
Organizers

The editors would like to thank the authors for their submissions, and John McCarthy and Mike Terry for their editorial assistance.

The following presenters did not submit papers for publication:

John Alderete
Mark Baker
René Kager
Michela Ippolito
Orin Percus
Milan Rezac
Mandy Simons
Veronique Van Gelderen & John Grinstead
Maaïke Verrips
Kai von Fintel & Sabine Iatridou

Masako Hirotsu, Andries Coetzee, Nancy Hall,
& Ji-Yung Kim
Editors
Amherst, August 2000

A Brief History of NELS

by John Jensen and Lisa Reed

The North East Linguistic Society originally known as the New England Linguistic Society, held its first meeting at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) on November 7th, 8th, and 9th, 1970. The original meeting of NELS attracted not only the expected audience from the northeastern United States, but also an unexpectedly large number of participants from eastern Canada. For this reason, at the business meeting of NELS 1, Professor David Lightfoot (at that time a professor of linguistics at McGill University) made the proposal that the conference expand the geographical range of hosting institutions to include eastern Canada. This proposal was immediately accepted and accounts for the change in title of the conference. Since NELS 1 in 1970, NELS has further expanded the geographical pool of its participants, although the traditional geographical base for hosting institutions has remained unchanged. NELS now annually draws speakers and participants from the entire United States, Canada, and Europe. It has been hosted by the following institutions, listed in chronological order.

NELS 1	(1970)	MIT
NELS 2	(1971)	McGill University
NELS 3	(1972)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 4	(1973)	Brown University
NELS 5	(1974)	Harvard University
NELS 6	(1975)	Université du Québec à Montréal
NELS 7	(1976)	MIT
NELS 8	(1977)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 9	(1978)	City University of New York
NELS 10	(1979)	University of Ottawa
NELS 11	(1980)	Cornell University
NELS 12	(1981)	MIT
NELS 13	(1982)	Université du Québec à Montréal
NELS 14	(1983)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 15	(1984)	Brown University
NELS 16	(1985)	McGill University
NELS 17	(1986)	MIT
NELS 18	(1987)	University of Toronto
NELS 19	(1988)	Cornell University
NELS 20	(1989)	University of Pittsburgh
NELS 21	(1990)	Université du Québec à Montréal
NELS 22	(1991)	University of Delaware
NELS 23	(1992)	University of Ottawa
NELS 24	(1993)	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NELS 25	(1994)	University of Pennsylvania

NELS 26	(1995)	Harvard University and MIT
NELS 27	(1996)	McGill University
NELS 28	(1997)	University of Toronto
NELS 29	(1998)	University of Delaware
NELS 30	(1999)	Rutgers University

NELS has always been and remains the most prestigious conference in theoretical linguistics hosted in its geographical area and it is among the most highly respected in the field at large. (Conferences in theoretical linguistics of comparable quality, hosted in different geographical areas, include the Chicago Linguistic Society, the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), and the Generative Linguists of the Old World (GLOW).) The papers presented at NELS are of a consistently high calibre, not only because of the large number of abstracts received (generally over 200, from which only 15% are selected), but also because of the anonymous reviewing procedure employed (leading figures in the field are asked to conduct the reviewing process). The papers presented at NELS have appeared in published form since NELS 5, and are frequently cited in referred journals of the field. Since NELS 11, the proceedings have been published by the Graduate Linguistic Student Association at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

From its beginning, NELS has been organized by the Linguistic graduate students association of the hosting institution, although one or two faculty members from the department frequently lend assistance. As a result, every effort is made by the organizing committee to insure that a significant number of speakers are graduate students. This tradition has been maintained principally because it provides graduate students who are relatively new in the field with a unique opportunity to meet and discuss their work with established researchers from other universities.

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